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REPORT ON WARSAW PACT TROOPS

PARIS AFP IN ENGLISH 1341 GMT 26 AUG 68 C

(BY JEAN VICENT)

(TEXT) BUCHAREST--(?SOME) TROOPS WHICH THIS MORNING WERE IN MOVEMENT IN PRAGUE UP TO NOW HAVE NOT CONTINUED TO MOVE TOWARD THE CZECHOSLOVAK FRONTIER, A RELIABLE SOURCE HERE SAID TODAY. THIS INFORMATION APPEARS TO CONTRADICT EARLIER REPORTS THAT THE FIVE POWERS STARTED TO WITHDRAW THEIR FORCES FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA. ONE SUCH REPORT WAS FURNISHED BY THE PRAGUE CORRESPONDENT OF THE RUMANIAN NEWS AGENCY ACERPRES, BUT HIS INFORMATION NOW APPEARS TO HAVE ORIGINATED WITH TROOP MOVEMENTS WHICH HE COULD SEE FROM THE WINDOW OF HIS FLAT.

THE SCOPE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE TROOP MOVEMENTS REMAIN (?IMPOSSIBLE) TO ASSESS. HOWEVER, AN IMPRESSION SEEMS TO PREVAIL HERE TODAY THAT THE CRISIS IS MOVING TOWARD A PEACEFUL SOLUTION. (?THERE IS) A SUDDEN CHANGE IN TONE IN TODAY'S RUMANIAN PRESS POLEMICS. (?ARE) GIVING WAY TO PROFESSIONS OF FRIENDSHIP FOR THE USSR. THIS SUGGESTS THAT RUMANIA AND THE USSR HAVE REACHED AN UNDERSTANDING, SAID TO INVOLVE A SOVIET GUARANTEE OF NONINTERVENTION IN RUMANIA.

26 AUG 1454Z BS/TRW

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